

Reissue Claims:

1. (Once Amended) A wire chafing stand comprising a first [an upper] rim of wire steel which forms a closed geometrical configuration circumscribing a first surface area, [a lower rim of wire steel forming a closed geometrical configuration circumscribing a second surface area with said first surface area being larger than said second surface area] and having at least two [a plurality of] wire legs with each wire leg having two upright sections interconnected to one another [at a location below the lower rim] in a configuration forming a base support for the stand to rest upon with each upright section extending upwardly from said base support to form an angle equal to or greater than 90° with respect to a horizontal plane through said base support and being affixed to the first [upper] rim adjacent one end thereof [and to said lower rim at a relatively equal distance below the point of attachment to said upper rim] and further comprising a plurality of offsets located either in said upright sections of said wire legs or in said first [upper] rim for laterally displacing each wire leg relative to said first [upper] rim to facilitate the nesting of a multiplicity of stands into one another without significant wedging.

2. (Original) A wire chafing stand as defined in claim 1 wherein said plurality of offsets are in said upright sections and divide each upright section into two segments lying in different planes relative to one another.

3. (Once Amended) A wire chafing stand as defined in claim 7 [2] wherein said first and second rim [upper and lower rims] form a geometry selected from the class consisting of square, oval and rectangular configurations.

4. (Original) A wire chafing stand as defined in claim 3 wherein said wire legs support said stand from opposite sides thereof with each wire leg having a unitary construction and having two generally "U" shaped sections extending between an intermediate section defining a handle for the stand.

5. (Original) A wire chafing stand as defined in claim 1 wherein said plurality of offsets are welded to said wire legs at the separation of the upright sections into segments.

6. (Original) A wire chafing stand comprising an upper rim of wire steel which forms a closed geometrical configuration circumscribing a first surface area, a lower rim of wire steel forming a closed geometrical configuration circumscribing a second surface area with said first surface area being larger than said second surface area and having two wire legs for supporting said stand at opposite ends thereof with each wire leg being of unitary construction having two upright sections of substantially equal length with the upright sections being interconnected to one another in a generally "U" shaped configuration below said lower rim to form a base support for the stand to rest upon and being interconnected to one another adjacent the upper rim for defining a handle for the wire chafing stand and being welded at predetermined locations to the upper and lower rims such that the upper and lower rims lie in substantial parallel alignment to one another and with each upright section extending upwardly from the base support to form an angle equal to or greater than 90° with respect to a horizontal plane through said base support and further comprising a plurality of offsets located in said upright sections of said wire legs which separate the upright sections into segments lying in different planes relative to

one another for laterally displacing each wire leg relative to said upper rim so as to facilitate the nesting of a multiplicity of stands into one another without significant wedging.

7. (New) A wire chafing stand as defined in claim 1 further comprising a second rim of wire steel located below said first rim with said second rim circumscribing a second surface area smaller than said first surface area and with said upright sections being affixed to said second rim at a relatively equal distance below their attachment to the first rim.